

COTTON CLOSED HIGHER.

The Gain in the New York Market for Futures Was 2 to 12 Points.

NEW ORLEANS 2 TO 7 POINTS UP

Spots Advanced 1-16d at Liverpool, 1-8c at New York and Houston and 1-16c at New Orleans and Galveston.

Cotton showed a little improvement again yesterday, which was a surprise when the statistical situation is considered. Among the bearish influences were large port receipts—more than double those of the corresponding day last year—and estimates at New Orleans and Houston more than twice as large as those of last year. The Liverpool market gains early in the session, but lost them later, closing about unchanged. American markets were little changed at the opening and soon declined sharply on anticipation of a heavy port movement. However, heavy buying and manipulation of May contracts helped prices later and New York closed 2 to 12 points higher, with New Orleans 2 to 7 up. Spots advanced 1-16d at Liverpool, 1-8c at New York and Houston and 1-16c at New Orleans and Galveston.

It was apparent that the manipulation was the principal feature of the market's strength. The same people who managed the January career are credited with manipulating May. There was, in fact, nothing else to which the figures could be attributed.

Some little improvement is noted in the demand for spots, in spite of the free movement of cotton. The present state of the market seems practically no bulls in evidence, and the bears have pretty much their own way, excepting an occasional scare from manipulators.

Estimates for today are: New Orleans 5248; to 5300 bales, against 4750 last year; Houston 2400 to 2800, against 202 last year.

Houston stocks have shown a considerable falling off late.

MOVEMENT INTO SIGHT.

An increase of 590,000 Bales Over Last Year is Known.

New Orleans, April 2.—Secretary Dexter's New Orleans cotton exchange statement covers the monthly movement to close of March. Compared with last year it shows an increase for the month in round figures of 50,000, but compared with year before last an increase of 70,000, and with 1898 a loss of 60,000.

The total for March was 640,100, against 580,100 last year; 620,467, 1898, before last year.

The amount of cotton imported into the country in March was 1,163,870, year before last, 1,063,000; and 1,163,870, year before last, 1,063,000.

The amount of cotton exported last year, 1,063,000, and 1,063,000, same time last year.

The movement from March 1st to April 1st, inclusive, was 1,063,000, and 1,063,000, same time last year.

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